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DEPT FOR IO/UNP AND ECA/P/C

E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: OFDP IZ UN

SUBJECT: LOOTED IRAQI STATUE?

- 11. USUN has received a June 21 diplomatic note (text in para 2 below) from the Iraqi Mission to the UN requesting USG assistance in returning a statue reportedly looted from the Iraqi Museum. As the note refers to information provided by AmEmbassy Baghdad, perhaps action is already underway. USUN requests guidance on how to reply to the Iraqi Mission.
- 12. Begin text of note: (Complimentary salutation) and has the honor to inform that the Embassy of the United States in Baghdad has informed Iraqi authorities that the United States customs authority of New York State (sic) found a statue of the Sumerian king, named An Ti Mi Na, which has been looted after the collapse of the previous Iraqi regime from the Sumerian Hall of the Iraqi Museum.

The Permanent Mission of Iraq has further the honor to request for assistance from the United States authorities to ensure the return of this statue to the Iraqi Museum. (complimentary close) End text.
BOLTON